

Chapter 5: Lists

List of Recipients

Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Commercially Guided Helicopter Skiing on the Kenai Peninsula, Chugach National Forest were sent to the following elected officials, tribal governments, federal, state and local agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals.

Organizations

Federal Aviation Administration-Alaska Regional Headquarters-Office of the Regional Administrator

BLM State Office

Department of the Interior

Federal Aviation Administration-Alaska Regional Headquarters-Office of the Regional Administrator

Federal Highway Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service

National Park Service-Alaska Area Region

U.S. Coast Guard-Environmental Impact Branch

U.S. Army Engr. Northwestern Division

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-Environmental Impact Statement Filing Section

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Glossary

Activities table: A tabular display of typical activities that may or may not be permitted in a given management area in the Forest Plan.

Airshed: Geographical areas, which because of topography, meteorology, and climatic conditions, share the same air mass. Air is managed by airsheds.

Alternative: An option for decision-making.

Backcountry recreation: People who use undeveloped land for various forms of winter recreation, including, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowboarding, ski touring, snowmachine use, and helicopter skiing. The term should not be applied to any of these subgroups, but only to the group as a whole.

Backcountry skiers: Includes those skiers who travel away from the highway system and seek steeper terrain to telemark, alpine ski, and snowboard.

Class II areas (air): Geographic area having air quality exceeding the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which is designated for a moderate degree of protection from future air quality degradation. Moderate increases in pollution may be permitted.

Client day: A term used in special use permits; a day when the permitted provides commercial services to one person. A client day is equivalent to one paying client being on the Forest for any part or all of a 24-hour day.

Core units: Areas historically authorized for commercially guided helicopter skiing operations.

Cross-country skiers: People skiing flat or gently sloping terrain using free-heel, cross-country or touring equipment. This group generally does not use the same terrain as helicopter skiers.

Cumulative impact: The impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable future action regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions.

Endangered species: Any plant or animal species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Endangered species are identified and defined in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act and published in the federal Register.

Exploratory Units: Areas historically not authorized for commercially guided helicopter skiing operations. The exception to this is the Moose Creek exploratory unit that was authorized for temporary use in 1997 and 1998.

Forest Plan: A USDA-Forest Service document required for each forest. Source of management direction specifying activity and output levels for a 10-15 years developed to meet the requirements of 36CFR 219. Management direction in the plan is based on the issues identified at the time of the plan's development.

Helicopter skiers: (Heli-skiers) One category of backcountry winter recreationists. These people are delivered to drop-off points on ridges or peaks by helicopter, gathered at pickup points after skiing down, and are ferried back to drop-off points. Most use alpine equipment, but telemark, touring, snowboards gear is also used.

Inventoried roadless area: Areas identified in a set of inventoried roadless maps, contained in the Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2 dated November 2000.

Management area: A specific area of the Forest identified in the Forest Plan. Management areas were assigned a prescription that includes specific direction for managing various resources within the management area. Each management area prescription included the theme, management intent, activities table and standards and guidelines.

Management Indicator Species (MIS): Species with habitat requirement, both specific and general, to service to indicate the outcome of management plan options for many species with similar habitat. MIS species are identified in the Forest Plan.

Management Intent: A summary of the desired conditions for ecological and social systems of a management area in the Forest Plan.

Model: An idealized representation of reality developed to describe, analyze, or understand it; a mathematical representation of the relationship under study (e.g. mountain goat winter habitat model).

Motorized recreation: Recreation activities involving motorized methods for access and transport or in support of an activity (e.g. snowmachine use, helicopter skiing).

National Forest System (NFS) lands: National Forests, National Grasslands, and other related lands for which the Forest Service is assigned administrative responsibilities.

No-Action Alternative: An alternative required by NEPA in an environmental analysis, which is defined as the situation which would exist if the action being considered, or an action alternative to it, were not take.

No-fly Zones: Areas delineated where high value wildlife habitat has been established. Permitted helicopter operations are restricted from flying in these areas by the USDA Forest Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Nonmotorized winter recreation: Recreation activities involving non-motorized methods for access and transport (e.g.: skiers, snowboarders, and snowshoers).

Non-motorized users: People that use non-motorized methods for access and transportation for winter activities such as skiing, snowboarding, and snowshoeing).

“Open to All Motorized Uses” in the winter (December 1 through April 30). “These areas are designed to allow a full spectrum of opportunities for winter motorized recreation. Both snow machines and helicopters are permitted in these areas during the winter season. Site specific or other closures may be implemented to avoid resource damage, wildlife conflicts, or safety issues.

Permit area: This is the area defined in the special use permit as available to the permittee to conduct the authorized use.

Planning record: The information used to assemble an environmental document, such as project-specific reports and related information, field investigations, other sources, and information resulting from public involvement

Population: The actual number of animals or plants present in an area at a certain time that share a common gene pool.

Population viability: Probability that a population will persist for a specified period of time across its range despite normal fluctuations in populations and environmental conditions.

Record of Decision: A document prepared within 30 days after the Final EIS is issued which states the agency’s decision and the rationale for it, what factors entered into the decision, and whether all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm has been adopted.

Scoping: A process that determines the issues, concerns, and opportunities which should be considered in analyzing the impacts of a proposal by receiving input from the public and affected agencies. The depth of analysis for these issues identified is determined by scoping.

Sensitive species: Plant or animal species, which are susceptible or vulnerable to habitat alterations or management activities, resulting in a viability concern for the species long-term persistence. Sensitive species may be those species under consideration for official listing as endangered or threatened species, that are on a official state list, or are recognized by the Regional Forester as needing special consideration to assure viable populations and prevent their being placed on federal or state lists.

Ski tourers: People who ski steep, upper elevation terrain using climbing skins and free-heel, randonee or alpine equipment. This group is most likely to share terrain with heli-skiers.

Snowboarders: People who use snowboards (a single piece of equipment to which both feet are attached) to descend slopes after ascending on foot. Some use climbing skins or snowshoes. Those using split boards and skins may use the same terrain as heli-skiers.

Snowmachine users: People who use over-the-snow machines to travel on snow.

Snowshoers: People who travel in the winter backcountry using snowshoes to support them on the snow surface. They typically do not slide down slopes or use the same terrain as ski tourers and heli-skiers.

Special Use Permit: A special use authorization that provides permission, without conveying an interest in land, to occupy and use National Forest System land or facilities for a specified purpose. Authorization permits are revocable, terminable, and non-compensable.

Species of special interest (SSI): Plant and animal species either because their habitat requirements are too narrow to be covered by course filter analysis or because of the concern by the public or land managers. SSI were identified in the Forest Plan.

Species of concern: Plant and animal species that may be affected by the proposal identified by the public or the interdisciplinary team.

Standards and Guidelines: Specific management direction for conditionally allowed management activities in a Forest Plan.

Tiering: Elimination of repetitive description on the same issue by incorporating, by reference, the general description in an environmental impact statement.

Theme: A short description of a management scenario or philosophy of a management area in the Forest Plan

Threatened species: Plant or animal species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Threatened species are identified and defined in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act and published in the federal Register.

Touring skiers and skate skiers: Includes people who utilize skate skis and traditional Nordic skis, and who are away from the highway system but seek flatter terrain (i.e. valley bottoms, trails, etc).

Units: Are subunits of the permit area.

Wilderness: Areas that Congress has designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Winter Motorized users: People that use motorized equipment for access and transport for winter activities such as heli-skiing and snowmachining.

Yurt: A semi-permanent winter tent structure.

List of Acronyms

ADFG	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
ANCSA	Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
AWMHA	Alaska Wilderness and Mountain Hut Association
CEQ	Council of Environmental Quality
CNF	Chugach National Forest
CO	carbon monoxide
CPG	Chugach Powder Guides
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DLP	defense of life and property
Draft EIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
Final EIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
Forest Service	United State Department of Agriculture-Forest Service
HC	hydrocarbons
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NF	National Forest
NFS	National Forest System
NO	nitric oxides
NPS	National Park Service
Revised Forest Plan	Chugach National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan
ROD	Record of Decision
USDA	United State Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

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